

December 2005 Update

Anaconda Company Smelter Superfund Site Anaconda, Montana (5-Year Review Date: September 29, 2005)

Brief Site History: The Anaconda Smelter site is located at the southern end of Deer Lodge Valley at and near the location of the former Anaconda Minerals Company ore processing facilities. These facilities were developed to remove copper from ore mined in Butte from about 1894 through 1980, when the smelter closed. The Atlantic Richfield Company purchased the site in 1977 and is the primary Potentially Responsible Party (PRP). Other PRP's include RDM Multi-Enterprises, RARUS Railway and CSS Enterprises.

The milling and smelting wastes contain elevated concentrations of arsenic, as well as copper, cadmium, lead and zinc. These contaminants pose a potential risk to human health and to life in nearby streams and adjacent lands.

The Environmental Protection Agency listed the area surrounding the smelter on the National Priorities List in September 1983.

Cleanup Activities Completed:

- Permanent relocation of all Mill Creek residents
- Anaconda Yards Time-Critical Action
- Excavation of Arbiter Plant wastes
- Beryllium Non-Time Critical Removal Action
- Old Works Operable Unit Stabilization Removal Action
- Flue Dust Remedial Action
- Remedial Action Old Works/East Anaconda Development Area

Current Status: EPA is currently conducting the Remedial Design for the last operable unit at the site. This Remedial Design is anticipated to review all past actions and ongoing operations to determine their consistency with the final remedy as well as their adequacy in protecting human health and the environment. Currently in the course of the ARWWS design, EPA is reviewing data from past and ongoing projects, inspecting the performance of past projects and designing for improvements when needed.

Summary of Protectiveness: Because the remedial actions at all of the operable units are protective and/or are expected to be protective, the remedy for the Anaconda Company Smelter Site is protective of human health and the environment.

Issues Impacting Protectiveness: Generally, areas that have been remediated are functioning as designed, and for the most part are being managed and maintained in an appropriate manner. A few deficiencies that do not immediately impact the protectiveness of the remedy are noted. The following table summarizes the status of the follow-up actions addressing these issues.

**Anaconda Company Smelter Superfund Site
Five-Year Review Update Table
(Review Date: September 29, 2005)**

Issues	Recommendations/ Follow-up Actions	Follow-up Actions (Status/Due Date)	Status of Follow-up Actions 12/05	Responsible Party
1. Poor vegetation at the Drag Strip Subarea of the Old Works/East Anaconda Development Area OU.	Provide additional maintenance of the vegetation at the Drag Strip Subarea.			
2. Poor vegetation with the temporary covers at Red Sands Subarea of the Old Works/East Anaconda Development Area OU	Evaluate redevelopment potential and use of temporary covers at the Red Sands Subarea.			
3. Poor vegetation with the Anaconda Ponds dike faces at the Anaconda Regional Water Waste & Soils OU.	Provide additional maintenance of the dike face soil covers at the Anaconda Ponds.			
4. Potential for buried hazardous waste and beryllium in the East Anaconda Yard Subarea.	Investigate the potential for additional buried hazardous waste and or beryllium.			
5. Lack of contaminant characterization of uncapped portion of the east Anaconda Yard Subarea.	Characterize contaminants within the uncapped portion.			

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6. Lack of final disposition plan for leachate from the Smelter Hill Repository Complex.	Determine the final disposition of repository leachates.			
7. Concern with exposure to attic dust in residential areas.	Develop protocol to address potential exposure to attic dust.			
8. Concern with the long term funding and implementation of institutional controls through Anaconda-Deer Lodge County.	Develop long term implementation and funding plan for institutional controls.			
9. Concern with air and groundwater quality in the community of Opportunity.	Provide air and groundwater monitoring in the community of Opportunity.			